





## International Conference: Gender Mainstreaming and the MDG's

February 17, 2005

Ms. Najet Karaborni Senior Interregional Advisor/OUSG/UNDESA UN-NGO-IRENE Project Coordinator NGO Section/ECOSOC/UNDESA Room DC2 – 1736, Two UN Plaza New York, NY 10017 USA

## Subject: International Conference: Gender Mainstreaming and the MDGs

Dear Ms. Karaborni,

We are pleased to invite you to the "International Conference: Gender Mainstreaming and the MDGs," scheduled from 28-30 March 2005 in Islamabad, Pakistan. This Conference will be a joint effort of the Ministry of Women Development, Government of Pakistan and the All Pakistan Women's Association (APWA), in collaboration with several UN Agency partners and donors.

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Shaukat Aziz, will inaugurate the Conference and the President of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf, is expected to address the Closing Ceremony. The invited international dignitaries include Kofi Annan, Cherie Blair, Hillary Clinton and Sonia Gandhi.

The Conference deliberations will be on the following themes:

- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
- Gender Equality, Human Rights and Peace
- Gender Equality and Poverty Alleviation
- Gender Equality and Health
- Gender Equality and Education

This Conference will examine international, regional and national 'best practices' towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, to chart a way forward towards achieving gender equality and human development.

The deliverables will be a set of substantive policy and action-oriented recommendations that will be leveraged through over 300 participants drawn from within SAARC countries and beyond.

It is an honor and privilege to invite you to participate in this Conference as Speaker for the Workshop on "<u>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</u>" and "<u>Gender Equality and Poverty Alleviation</u>". We would also like to request you to head the drafting committee for the provisional recommendations and the final Conference Report. Towards this end, we request your presence from 20 March to 1 April, 2005.



We look forward to a positive confirmation, an honor for us and indeed for the people of Pakistan. Kindly RSVP by Feb 20, 2005 to the Conference Secretary, Ms. Asma Yamin, at <u>info.conpak05@dslplus.net.pk</u>

Yours sincerely,

Nilofar Bakuha

Nilofer Bakhtiar Advisor Ministry of Women's Development Government of Pakistan

Tapen Landi

Tazeen Faridi President APWA

Wark

Dr. Nafis Sadik UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS In Asia (On behalf of UN Partners)